

Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 035331
ORIGIN OC-06

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DRAFTED BY A/OC:JHAZEWSKI:LAR

APPROVED BY A/OC:WENAEHER

AF/C:TRBUCHANAN

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AF/EX:JBRYANT

OC-AF:RLOCHMILLER

-----161954Z 067822 /45

O 161933Z PEB 77 ZFF4

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY YAOUNDE NIACT IMMEDIATE

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 035331

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: ACOM, CM, US

SUBJECT:WATTS

REF: YAOUNDE 672

1. DEPT CONCURS WITH THE EMBASSY IN PROVIDING THE GURC
WITH STRONG AND POSITIVE REASSURANCES ON THE THREE POINTS
PARA 4 REFTEL.

2. THE WATTS DIPLOMATIC RELAY FACILITY IS TO BE AN INTE-
GRAL PART OF THE UNITED STATES DIPLOMATIC MISSION IN THE
CAMEROON. IT WILL BE STAFFED SOLELY BY DEPARTMENT OF
STATE PERSONNEL. IT WILL NOT, IN ANY SENSE, BE A MILITARY
INSTALLATION NOR UNDER ANY CIRCUMSTANCE WILL IT BE USED
TO CONDUCT ANY TYPE OF SURVEILLANCE OR INTELLIGENCE
GATHERING ACTIVITY. IT WILL BE UNDER THE SOLE, FULL AND
CONTINUING AUTHORITY OF THE DEPARTMENT OF STATE AND THE
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EMBASSY YAOUNDE. REAL ESTATE WILL BE LEASED OR PURCHASED
AND ENJOY THE SAME DIPLOMATIC IMMUNITY AS THE EMBASSY
YAOUNDE. IN VIEW OF THE ABOVE, THERE IS NO QUESTION OF
SUPRANATIONAL STATUS OR ALIENATION.

3. THE U.S. DIPLOMATIC (RADIO) RELAY FACILITY WILL BE

OPERATED IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE PERTINENT PORTIONS OF THE

GENEVA CONVENTION GOVERNING THE SIGNATORY MEMBERS OF THE INTERNATIONAL TELECOMMUNICATIONS UNION. OPERATING RIGHTS FOR THE FACILITY WILL BE NEGOTIATED TO THE MUTUAL SATISFACTION OF THE GURC AND USG. ANY QUESTION OR DOUBT THAT THE GURC MAY HAVE CAN BE SATISFIED PRIOR TO THE SIGNING OF ANY AGREEMENT GOVERNING THE PRESENCE AND OPERATION OF THE FACILITY.

4. SINCE THE SYSTEM IS INTENDED SOLELY FOR U.S. DIPLOMATIC COMMUNICATIONS, IT SHOULD IN NO WAY AFFECT THE CAMEROONIAN ROLE AS THE SOLE COORDINATOR FOR THE DEVELOPMENT AND INTEGRATION OF EXISTING NATIONAL (CAMEROONIAN) OR REGIONAL (AFRICAN) TELECOMMUNICATIONS NETWORKS.

5. THE FOLLOWING MAY BE CONVEYED ORALLY BUT NOT REPEAT NOT INCLUDED IN ANY WRITTEN COMMUNICATION TO THE GURC: IT IS OUR INTENTION TO INVITE GURC OFFICIALS TO TOUR THE FACILITY AFTER IT IS INSTALLED AND ACTIVATED.

6. DEPT ASSUMES EMBASSY IN ITS DISCUSSIONS WITH GURC, WILL CONTINUE TO EMPHASIZE BENEFICIAL ASPECTS OF WATTS, I.E., EMPLOYMENT OF CAMEROONIAN LOCALS (SOME IN TECHNICAL POSITIONS), SYMBOLIC VALUE AS ENCOURAGEMENT TO U.S. INVESTORS, ETC. PLEASE ADVISE IF YOU BELIEVE THERE ARE POINTS OTHER THAN THESE IN PRECEDING PARAGRAPHS THAT WE COULD USEFULLY COVER.

7. COMMENT: WE ARE IMPRESSED BY USE OF TERM, QUOTE AT CONFIDENTIAL

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THIS STAGE UNQUOTE IN GURC NOTE. COULD GURC BE WAITING FOR MORE DEFINITE WORD ON TRANS-CAM III AND SECURITY ASSISTANCE?
HARTMAN

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NNN

*** Current Handling Restrictions *** n/a

*** Current Classification *** CONFIDENTIAL

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